

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 19 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, and 18 have been amended.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 2, and 18 have been objected to because of informalities. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 18 to clarify the existence of “opposing top and bottom surfaces” thus providing the appropriate antecedent basis for “the bottom surface.” Applicant further amended the claims to clarify that the arm axis refers to the “first arm axis.”

Claim 2 has been amended also to clarify the existence of a second arm.

With these amendments, applicant submits that the objections have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 1-12, 15, and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hagglund et al. (US 6,536,728 B1). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the following reasons.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 18 to state that an arm positioning dimension (92) is defined as an orthogonal distance, and not just a vertical distance, between the first arm axis (90) and the positioning mechanism (70). This amendment clarifies that the arm positioning dimension (92) increases from a portion of the positioning surface (82) most distal from the rear pivot point (62) (i.e., e.g., at notch 20A) to a portion of the positioning surface (82) most proximate to the rear pivot point (62) (i.e., e.g., at notch 20D). This claim amendment does not add new matter, as the orthogonal distance is inherent in the design of the arms.

With reference to pages 1 to 3 of Attachment 1 below, which are the drawings of Figures 4A to 4I of the instant application in a corresponding PCT application, applicant has drawn and labeled orthogonal lines in Figures 4B, 4D, 4F, and 4H. In Figure 4B, the orthogonal line happens to coincide to line 92. Because the positioning surface 82 of the instant invention is a cam-like surface in that it has curvature, the orthogonal distance between positioning mechanism 70 and first arm axis 90 increases from notch 20A to 20D.

Hagglund '728, on the other hand, does not disclose a cam like surface near its notched area on the arm. With reference to pages 4 and 5 of Attachment 1 below, which are drawings of Figures 6a to 6d of the '728 patent, applicant has drawn an imaginary arm axis in each figure (which is a line between the two pivot points) and an orthogonal line from the notch to said imaginary arm axis. Because the Hagglund '728 arm is substantially uniform in its height, generally denoted as distance H in Figure 6a, the orthogonal distance does not change in height as the arm is rotated between notches 82a to 82d.

For the foregoing reason, Hagglund '728 cannot anticipate applicant's claims 1-12, 15, and 18-19.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 13-14 and 16-17 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hagglund '728.

These claims depend from amended claim 1, which applicant respectfully submits is now patentable over Hagglund '728. As the Examiner stated in point 7 of the final office action, Hagglund '728 fails to teach the features of applicant's claims 13, 14, 16, and 17.

Furthermore, if one skilled in the art were to make the modification as suggested by the Examiner, i.e., to modify the arms 16 and 18 of Hagglund '728 so as to incorporate the features of applicant's claims 13, 14, 16, and 17, the resulting arm would have a cam-like surface with notches such that when hook portion 88 of Hagglund '728 engages the notches, the keyboard drawer would move upwards relative to planar support 20 (see Fig. 1 and col. 1, line 61) and not downwards as needed in the Hagglund invention. This combination may render the Hagglund invention inoperable because the keyboard tray, once pulled out of its stored position, would move towards the planar support leaving the keyboard too high for most consumers to use.

For the above reason, applicant respectfully submits that claims 13, 14, 16, and 17 are patentable over Hagglund.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Allowance of claims 1-19, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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Attachment 1

PCT/US2004/032729

1/5

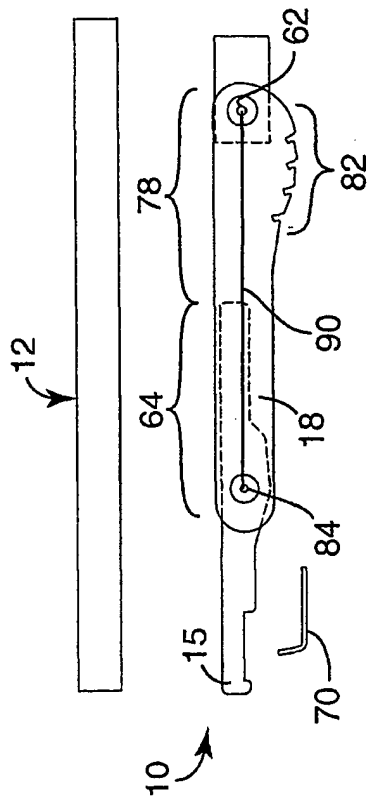


Figure 4A

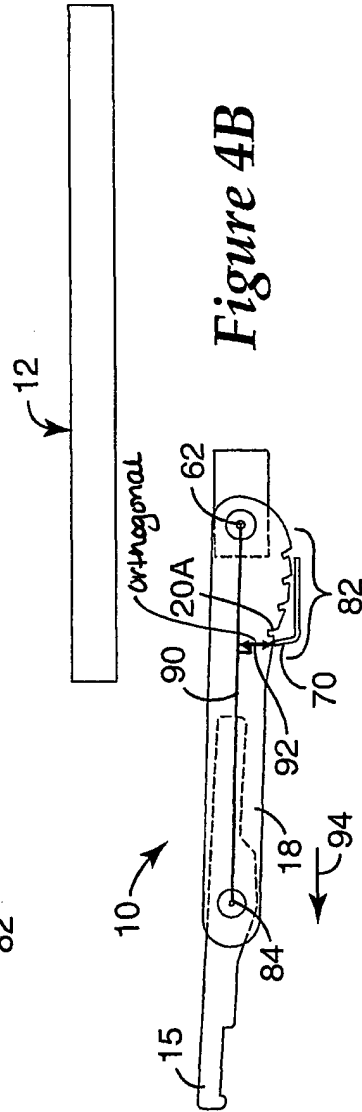


Figure 4B

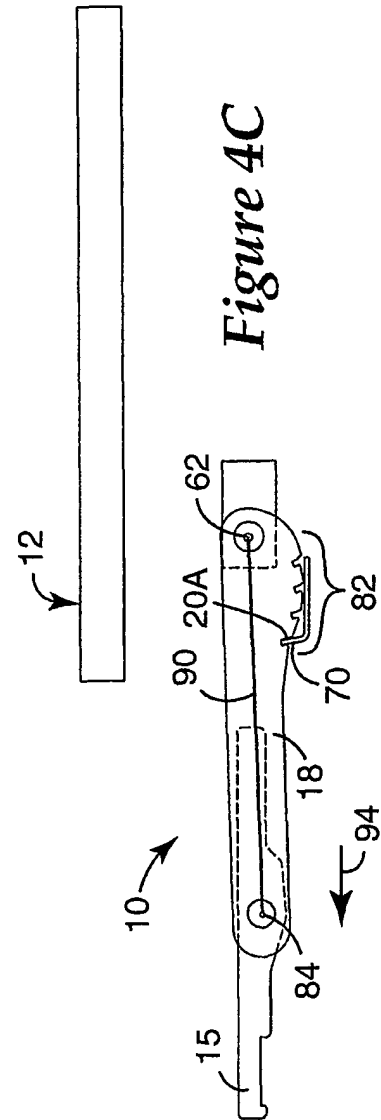
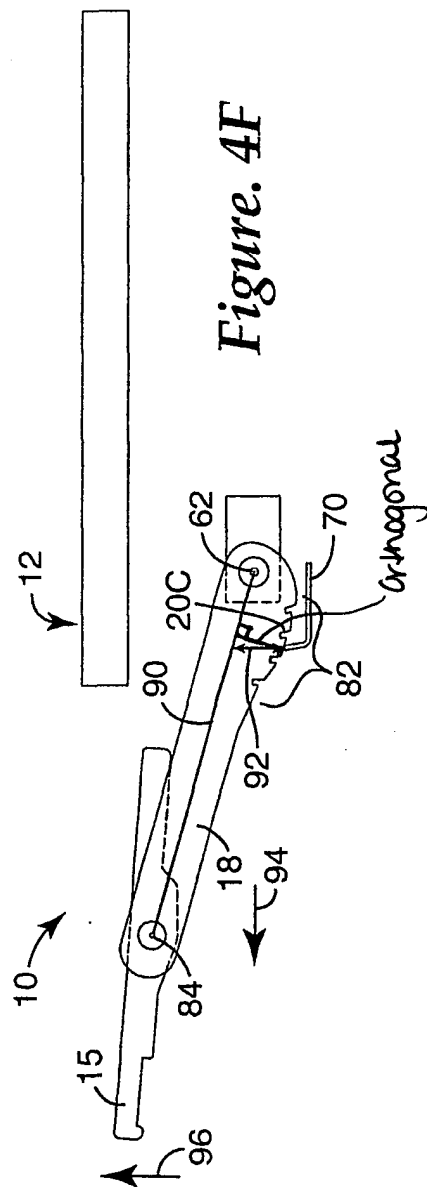
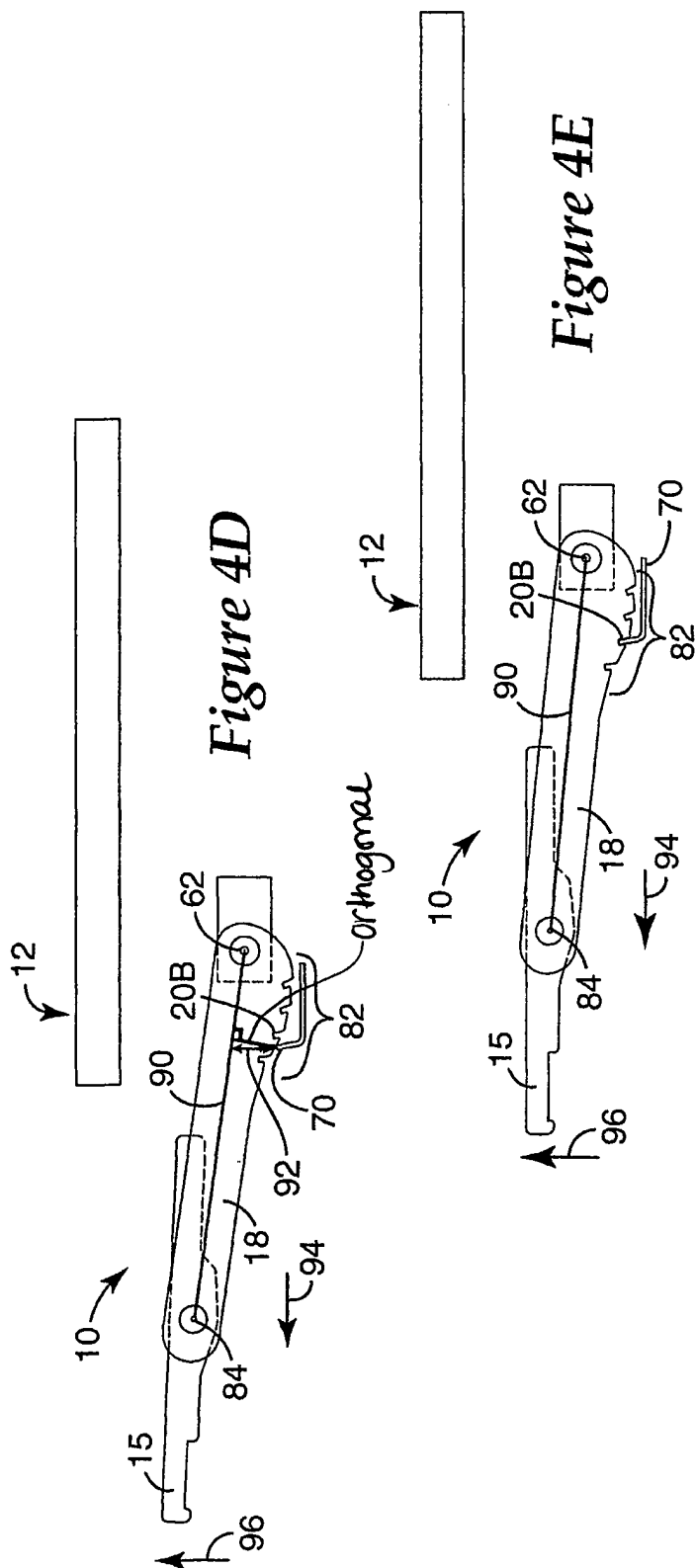


Figure 4C

2/5



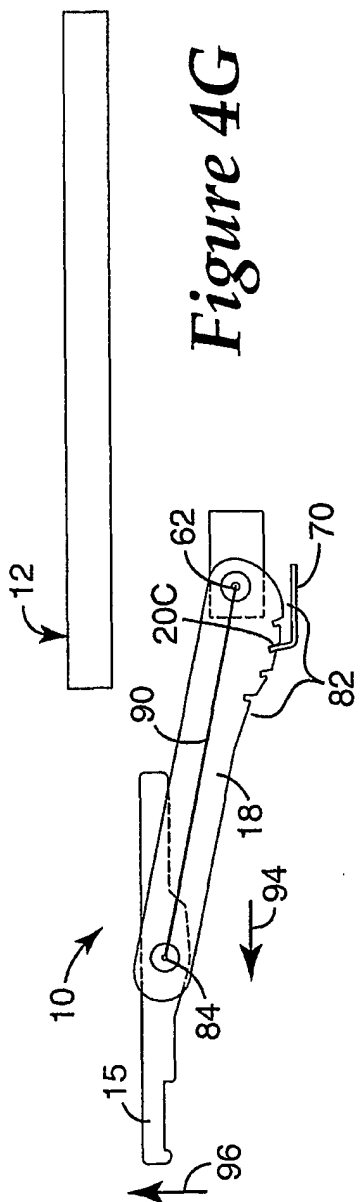


Figure 4G

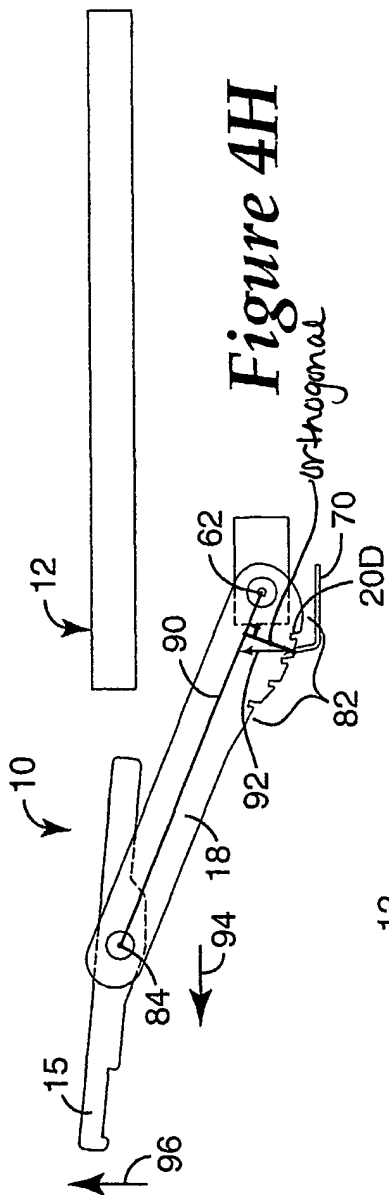


Figure 4H

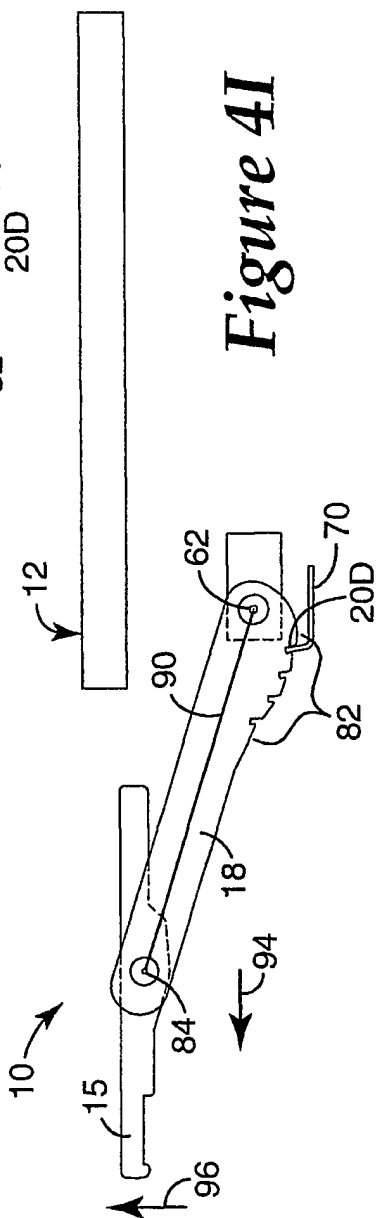
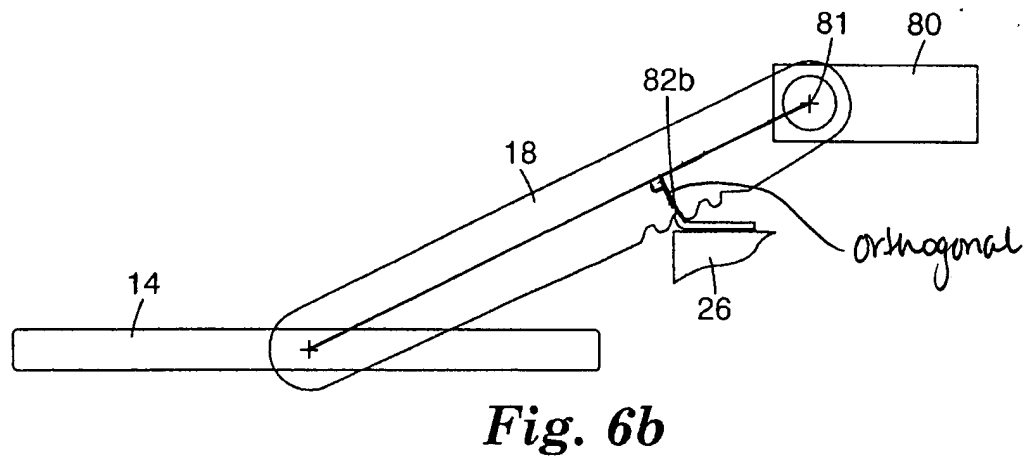
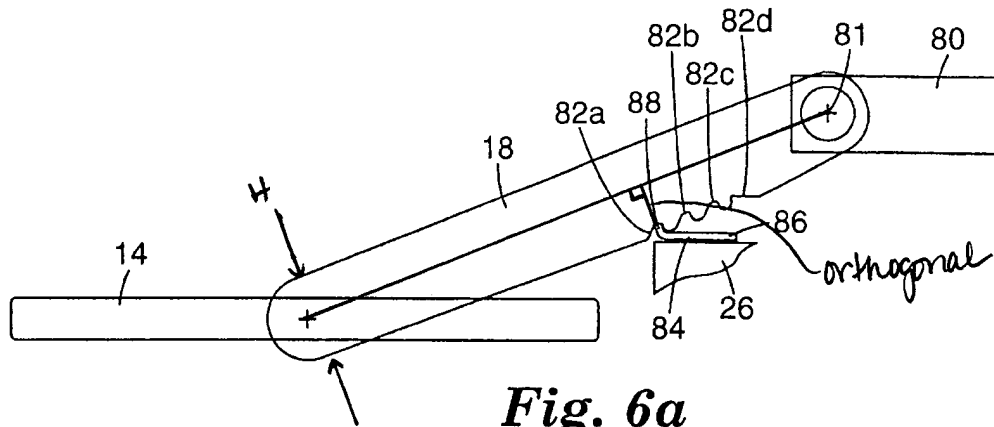


Figure 4I



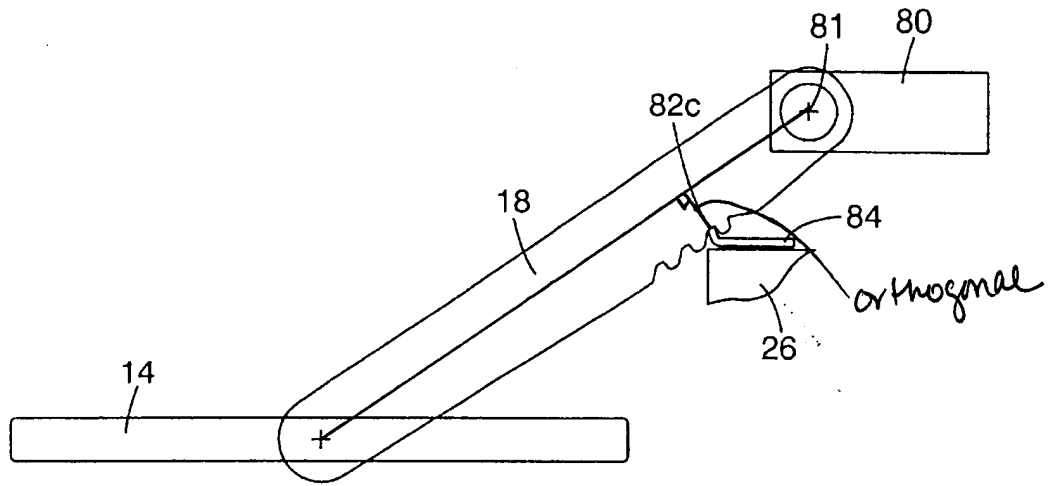


Fig. 6c

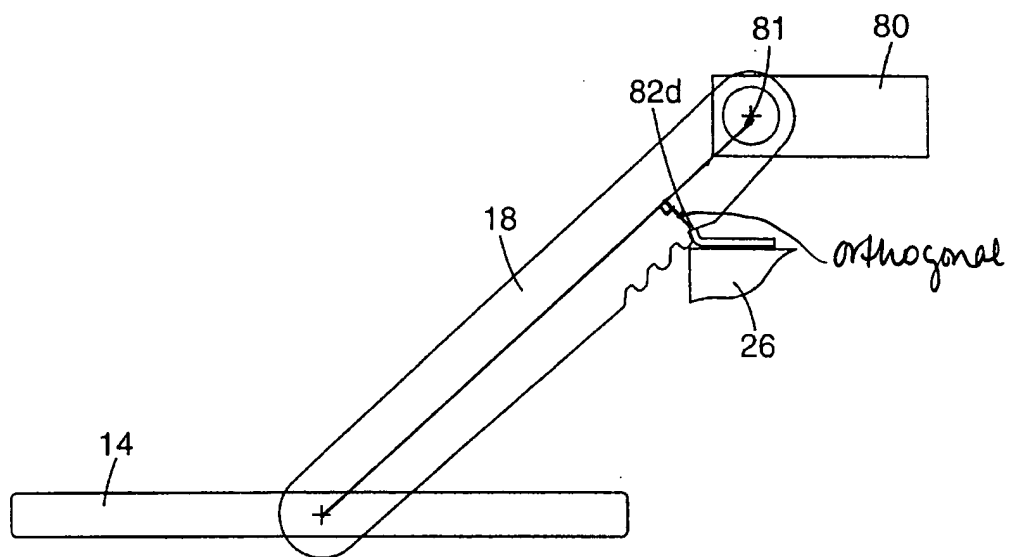


Fig. 6d